

Divisional of Appl. No. 09/783,544
Preliminary Amendment dated: September 16, 2003

REMARKS

Applicant has amended the specification to cross reference the parent application.

Applicant has amended the claims taking into consideration the prosecution in the parent application. The original claims 13-21 have been canceled from the application as being directed to the non-elected invention. The claims now present in the application are claims 1-12. Applicant believes that these claims are in full compliance with 35 U.S.C. §112 and are clearly patentable over the references of record in the parent application.

The present application is a divisional application and the reference cited forms from the parent application is submitted herewith for the convenience of the Examiner. In accordance with MPEP §609, a Form 1449 listing these references is also submitted herewith. Confirmation that the prior art cited in the parent application has been considered in the next Official Action is most respectfully requested.

In view of the above amendments to the claims an early and favorable action on the merits is now in order and is most respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

BACON & THOMAS, PLLC

By: Richard E. Fichter
Richard E. Fichter
Registration No. 26,382

625 Slaters Lane, 4th Fl.
Alexandria, Virginia 22314
Phone: (703) 683-0500
Facsimile: (703) 683-1080

REF:kdd
PA01.wpd

September 16, 2003